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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Firefighting Forces Prepared For Hotter & Dryer Weather Predicted for Weekend

HAMILTON, MT; JULY 27, 2007. --- Bitterroot National Forest firefighting forces are prepared for the possibility of new starts that may result from the weather predicted for the weekend - temps that are expected to reach the triple digits and dry thunderstorms across the southern portion of the Forest.

At press time, air patrol is investigating a report of a possible smoke in Lazy Creek which is located in the Frank Church – River of No Return on the West Fork Ranger District. Personnel remain on the Saddle Gulch fire, while air patrol and lookouts continue to check the remainder of fires that were controlled earlier this week. And Wildland Fire Use managers continue to monitor the eleven wildland fire use fires that are burning in the Frank Church – River of No Return, Anaconda-Pintlar and Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Areas.

Current information regarding these fires and any new starts can be found at the Bitterroot National Forest's Dispatcher's website, http://63.196.254.151/WildWeb/WCMT-BRC.htm.

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